



**TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**Jill R. Myers
Town Manager**

TO: Honorable Board of Selectmen
FROM: Jill R. Myers, Town Manager
DATE: October 5, 2007
SUBJECT: Town Manager's Report for the BOS Meeting of October 9, 2007

Attached, please find the monthly Department Head Reports for the month of September 2007.

Budget Summits: Staff is continuing to provide requested budget materials in follow-up to the Summit on 9/19, and in preparation for the next Budget Summit on 10/10 at the High School Library. The third Summit is scheduled for 11/7, same location and time (7:00pm).

Department Head Meeting: I met with the Department Heads on Wednesday, September 26th, to provide them with information discussed at Budget Summit I, and request Department follow-up information as noted at the Summit. We also had a lengthy discussion with our loss control representative from MIIA on becoming active in the MIIA Rewards Program which will help us to save money on our future years' premiums by participating in on-line training, on-site training, seeking grants, and adopting the recommended policies and procedures.

GIC Status Update on Formation of Public Employees Committees (PECs): As you know, a Group Insurance Commission (GIC) information session with union representatives and the retiree representative was held on September 11th. The unions received formal notification on August 28th to institute a Public Employees Committee (PEC) to negotiate whether the Town should join the GIC as such action for FY09 needed to be communicated to the GIC by October 1, 2007. The PEC met on 9/27/07. No action was taken, but the consensus was to continue to examine this program for potential FY10 participation – in hope of more providers as well.

Bernat Mill Fire Recovery Efforts: The visit by Representative DeLeo was postponed to 10/10 at 9:00am (lower Town Hall, then site visit). Please review the monthly report from the Director of Planning and Economic Development for details.

Office Renovations and Relocations: Renovations are nearly complete on the new Accounting Office located on the first floor of the Town Hall next door to the Town Clerk's Office. Our computer server has been replaced and transitioned into this office as well to provide heightened security and temperature control. The next stage in office renovations has begun with painting in the Town Clerk's Office. This office will be carpeted and a new counter space will be built that will meet ADA requirements. We are also finalizing renovations to the former Accounting Office on the second floor in preparation for the Conservation Agent to

move into this space. Once this happens, Megan DiPrete will relocate from her current shared space to the former Conservation Office.

Citizen Complaint: The DPW followed up on an anonymous citizen complaint concerning Elm Street. The following information was received by Asst. Superintendent Irving Priest:

“I spoke with the project foreman for the Elm Street job just before I went on vacation, to let him know that they needed to come back and deal with the hydroseeding/weed problem. It is unfortunate that such small details diminish the positive results of a project like this. Anytime an attempt is made to seed grass in the summer, and the seed is not watered, the end result is a horrible mess of weeds. In other areas of the project (which included Pleasant Street) where the seed was cared for, the resultant grass is very good. As Larry has already told you, we do hold money, and the contractor will be back to reseed at a better growing time. I have spoken with him again, and he plans to possibly begin this Saturday and reseed again in a few weeks. As for the width of the road, I have found many roads in Town that vary greatly in width. However, constant width roads are a preferred layout. It seems appropriate to strive for uniformity when a roadway is reconstructed, which we did. And usually, my experience has been that residents don’t mind maintaining a little more grass when their property becomes enhanced by a newly constructed street with good sidewalks, curbing, and smooth pavement. Any change takes a while to get used to. I would hope that this issue will go away soon with the contractor returning to reseed. We will not let this drop.”

On 10/3 he reported,

“Lorusso Corp was on both Elm & Pleasant Streets today pulling weeds where the hydroseeding did not take last summer. I would expect that they will reseed within the next few days. If we do not get rain by next Tuesday or Wednesday, we will water the areas to ensure that growth is successful. This is good growing weather when temperatures are down at night and up in the daytime.”

Keypad Security Entry System for Town Hall: In coordination with the School Dept, funded by a grant and matching appropriation, the Town Hall will soon be outfitted with a security system. Access will be via a personal “card” and “key pad” at the front door for use before or after business hours for employees/officials to enter the building. Staff is in the process of finalizing a list to give to the company who has been contracted to do the programming. More information will be forthcoming in the near future.

Municipalities Organized for Regional Effectiveness (MORE) Meeting on Regional Impacts of Casino Gambling: A regional forum was held at the DCU on 9/28. The session was moderated by Professor John Mullin. Panel participants were from the Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission; BOS of Lakeville, MA; Former Special Counsel for Indian Affairs, RI; Planning Consultant and former Asst. Dir. of Planning for the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation. I have hand-outs from this very interesting discussion.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Finance Committee FATM warrant hearings: every Tuesday and Thursday in October. Please check posting for details
- 10/10 at 9am: Bernat Mill visit by Representative DeLeo (Chairman of the House Ways and Means) and members of the Uxbridge Legislative delegation
- 10/10 at 7pm – Planning Board Expedited Permitting Hearing – Warrant Articles
- 10/10 at 7pm – Budget Summit II, HS Library
- 10/12 at 10:30am – Staff meeting; permitting process and expedited permitting
- 10/18 Collective Bargaining Session – Police Union
- 10/19 MMA Regional Meeting, Shrewsbury
- 10/23 CMRPC site visit for GIS needs assessment